

STILLWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Notice: These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder (MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b)).

REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 2, 2016

Present: Commissioners Dennis Shupak, Chair; Maureen Davey and Gerald W. Dell, Members; Lori Dobitz, Administrative Assistant.
Others Present: April Limburg, Planning; Carol Arkell, Fire Warden; Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Anne B. Moses, citizen; David J. Katz, citizen; and Rick Hanners, Stillwater County News.

Open Meeting: Commissioner Shupak opened the meeting at 9:00 am with the pledge to the flag.

Minutes Approval: Commissioner Dell **MOVED** to approve the minutes of May 24, 2016. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Claims: Commissioner Dell **MOVED** to approve Claim Check No.'s 95720 through 95799 totaling \$247,609.14. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Recognition: The Commission recognized the following Employee(s) for years of public service:

Sheriff Clifford Brophy	35 years of Service
Larry Bernhardt, Transport Officer	20 years of Service

Commissioner Davey said Larry Bernhardt was a long term dispatcher whom has moved to the title of Transport Officer and to see someone in public service this long who does such a good job for us, is greatly appreciated.

Special issues Stillwater River Road Rockslide: Commissioner Dell said the proposal scaling of rocks off the face of the hill and removal of the rockslide from the Stillwater River Road has been submitted by Shannon and Wilson. Commissioner Dell **MOVED** to approve the Phase 3 Design Proposal in the amount of \$29,949 to prepare the bid package for the project. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**.

Discussion: Commissioner Davey said this has been a long process, but a

process we had to take. We have very competent engineers with a great deal of experience working with us, she said. Commissioner Davey noted this does not include repairs on the road, the county will still have to pay for the repairs which we do not know how much it will be, but could be very expensive. She said the Stillwater River Road and Limestone Road have areas where this could happen and it is very costly for the county and an inconvenience to the residents. Commissioner Davey asked if this happens again in this area or another area, is it going to take \$500,000 to mitigate the problem again? It is a very expensive and we have people in the north end of the county that are going to have to help pay for this. Looking at some of these roads, we need to consider the expense of the repairs and how it affects the rest of the county, not only roads, but also the whole budget of the county, Davey said. Commissioner Dell said we will not know the total extent of damage to the road until the fallen rocks have been removed. Dell said one large rock fell into the center of the road that went deep enough it cut the fiber optics. Commissioner Davey explained due to the very sensitive location of the rockfall, with the Stillwater River right there, and homes across the river, it complicates everything.

Public Comments: David Katz said he and his wife Ann Moses, live at 1473 Stillwater River Road, made a one hour drive that once was 35 minutes to arrive in Columbus this morning. He said he has concerns about the process and asked specific questions regarding the bidding process. He also inquired about the FEMA grant application process. Carol Arkell, DES Coordinator, and Commissioner Dell answered his questions.

Vote: Commissioner Shupak called for a vote on the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2016 Fire Season - Carol Arkell, Fire Warden, reported that eight fires were reported in the past week. Three were human caused, five were lightning strikes she said. The county is in a red flag warning at this time and is recommending remaining in Stage I Fire Restrictions. The Commission concurred with the recommendation. Commissioner Davey said our local business and contractors have been receptive of our fire restrictions.

Regular Business: Road and Bridge Department - Commissioner Dell read a request from Mark Schreiner, Road Superintendent, to lowering the speed limits on Shane Ridge Road and S. Grove Creek Roads citing dust problems and will satisfying complaints in regards to safety. Schreiner said an ordinance will need to be adopted pursuant to MCA 61-8-310, to decrease the speed limits. A letter was also submitted from Crowley and Fleck Attorneys in Billings, representing the Tippet Rise Foundation Land located in the southern part of the county. They are requesting the county impose a reduced speed limit of 25 mph on S. Grove Creek Road, reduce the risk of accidents caused by the higher speeds and a more reasonable and safe maximum speed given the conditions of the road and expected traffic in the speed zone area.

Commissioner Davey **MOVED** to move forward with the ordinance process for both the county roads presented. Commissioner Dell **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

- Consent Agenda:**
1. Road & Bridge Department - Caterpillar Financial Services Lease/Purchase Documents and Resolutions for Equipment Lease-Purchase for (3) 2013 - CT660 On-Highway Trucks.
 2. Janitorial Services - Annual renewal of contract with Maid in Columbus for janitorial services for County Attorney and Solid Waste Offices.
 3. Planning - Final Plat and SIA for Robertus Minor Subdivision

- File Items:**
1. Treasurer Office - Cash and Investments Report for month ending June 30, 2016.
 2. Library Board - Resignation submitted by Linda Halstead-Acharya
 3. MT Dept. of Commerce - Application for TSEP was received and reviewed for the 2019 Biennium.

Commissioner Dell **MOVED** to approve the consent agenda and place the file items to file. Commissioner Davey **SECONDED**. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: None heard.

Meeting Adjourned: Hearing no further business, Commissioner Shupak adjourned the meeting at 9:25 A.M.